

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Suspends License at Fillmore Bar for Illegal Activity

Investigators Found Violations Involving Illegal Narcotics and Drink Solicitations

(Fillmore) - Today the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) indefinitely suspended the license to sell beer and wine at the Sespe Saloon located at 251 A Street, Fillmore.

The bar had been the source of extensive disorderly activity and required numerous police visits from the Ventura County Sheriff's Office Fillmore station. In July, 2005, the Sheriff's office requested ABC's assistance to address community concerns..

The Department conducted undercover operations at the bar between December, 2005 and February, 2006. During the operation, undercover investigators were sold or provided marijuana and methamphetamine by employees and patrons. Employees were also found to be illegally soliciting patrons to buy them drinks from the bar. Employees would solicit patrons to buy drinks and the money from the sale was split between the employee and the bar.

The suspension will run for a minimum of 30 days, and indefinitely thereafter until the license is successfully transferred to a person or persons acceptable to the Department. The Department will scrutinize any applicant to verify personal qualification and the ability of that person to conduct business in full compliance with the ABC Act.

ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.